



P24356.A01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Norio Sato et al.

Group Art Unit : 2873

Serial No : 10/724,714

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : December 2, 2003

For : LENS BARREL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,

Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 5-346605, which was published on December 27, 1993, together with an English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-15681, which was published on January 17, 1997, together with an English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-214514, which was published on August 4, 2000, together with an English language translation of the same; and

U.S. Patent No. 5,033,832 to ITO, which issued on July 23, 1991.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patent is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the below-

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listed telephone number.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted Japanese patent documents are attached and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. 1.17 (p), to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Norio Sato et al.

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March 9, 2004
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Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P24356Serial No.
10/724,714INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Norio SATO et al.Filing Date
December 2, 2003Group
2873

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER						DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5	0	3	3	8	3	2	07/23/91	ITO		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER						DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	5	-	3	4	6	6	0	5	12/27/93	JAPAN		X	
		9	-	1	5	6	8	1	01/17/97	JAPAN		X	
	2000	-	2	1	4	5	1	4	08/04/00	JAPAN		X	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.